

Statewide Data Program Needs Assessment

Urban Water Use Efficiency

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Program Description

Kent works in the Water Use Efficiency Branch as a Program Manager II. The Branch includes:

- Land and Water Use Programs
- CIMIS
- Urban and Agricultural Water Use Efficiency
- 2009 Water Conservation Act (or SB7X). This has 18 projects, including:
 - 20 by 2020 for agricultural and urban agencies
 - Standard water use reporting for all agencies
 - Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Task Force to develop alternatives BMPs
 - Quantify agricultural water use
 - Quantify water use efficiency

What data does your program need to be successful?

The programs need water data. The mission is to take the data and aggregate it for the State.

The programs need baseline water use data and future targets.

The programs need average water use data.

Do you have the data your program needs?

No. The programs cannot quantify water use data on a Statewide basis. The programs need to be able to quantify water use efficiency for urban and agricultural measures (BMPs or EWMPs). The Department is required to evaluate water use efficiency measures.

In the urban sector, there is a just a lack of data.

At the local level, water use needs to be defined by sector.

AB 1404 requires agricultural water utilities to report farm gate deliveries to the State.

Timelines for various projects are different..

The programs could use CIMIS and land use data to estimate some water use. The programs also need more CIMIS stations and satellite imagery to project crop water use for agriculture, as well as urban landscapes.

There is not a lot of groundwater data.

SB7X requires water balances. Having the number from the California Water Plan would be good.

Is data managed in a way that meets your program needs?

No. Data management is inadequate. Data is not mandated, it is usually submitted voluntarily. Data is not always in the same format, or comparable. Data varies from year to year. It is not complete (as in the urban water management plans are not complete). Data does not provide statewide coverage; it is not complete spatial coverage of the State. Data cannot be used to extrapolate.

Data is not always in an electronic format. Data is not easily accessible. Putting the data in a data base would be a good first step. It could then be accessible by different agencies. The agreement has to work both ways, so DWR can access data these other agencies have too.

Water utilities complain about having to submit the same information to different agencies. This needs to be fixed. This creates redundant data.

The landscape program needs remote sensing data for landscape water use.

Do you have unmet needs?

There are a lot of obstacles for local agency cooperation, and a lot of State bureaucracies.

Much of the reporting will take behavioral changes. There is no interest in doing things for the common good.

How are you accountable as a program manager?

Apportioning Costs

Other Issues

Talk to Mary Smith in DTS and Ruppert Grauberger in DOE about BDCP and the Delta.